

Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph on page 2, line 5, has been amended as follows:

Snoke, U.S. Patent No. 5,857,996, issued on January 12, 1999, which is incorporated herein in its entirety by this specific reference, discloses a method of epidural surgery that involves distending a portion of an epidural space with a fluid supplied from a catheter in order to facilitate observation of structures within the epidural space. Snoke discloses that the catheter is initially inserted into the sacral foramen and advanced to a desired spinal level. The catheter is then used [[as]] for supplying a fluid to infuse and distend the epidural space. According to Snoke, a fiberoptic scope is then inserted through the catheter to the distended portion of the epidural space to allow observation thereof.

The paragraph on page 19, line 17, which bridges page 20, has been amended as follows:

In a similar example, a fiberoptic scope is introduced into the straightened catheter lumen disposed at a site of interest in a spine of a patient, until the tip of the fiberoptic scope is positioned at about the distal tip of the catheter device. A video camera is connected to a proximal portion of the fiberoptic scope in order to view the targeted nerve root prior to the intended treatment. Gentle irrigation with normal saline is used to distend the epidural space, especially at the area of the epidural space near the catheter tip. The catheter and fiberoptic are advanced cephalad, caudad, and rotated clockwise

and counterclockwise to obtain an accurate image of the T₁₀ space. The right T-₁₀ root is viewed on a video screen and it is noted that the nerve root appears to be encased with both a fibrous and a cottony material. The cottony material is moved aside with a gentle stream of normal saline. Behind it, an area of erythema is observed lateral to the right T-₁₀ root. Triamcinalone 80 mg in 10 mL of normal saline is injected onto the nerve root ~~root~~ and contiguous structures. The catheter device is carefully removed as noted in EXAMPLE 1.